

St. Benedict C.S.S., 50 Saginaw Pkwy, Cambridge, ON N1R 5W1

June 20, 2012 · Volume 4, Issue 21

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The BENN newsletter is a publication of St. Benedict CSS. It is distributed every second Wednesday during the school year using the WCDSB Newswire service. Any questions or comments pertaining to this publication can be sent to the editor Anton Milardovic or the school's principal Dan Witt.

BENN STAFF

Mr. Anton Milardovic
Mrs. Sophia Adach
Mrs. Jennifer Jackson
Mrs. Nada Offak
Mr. James Rodrique
Mrs. Laura Varriano Lane

NEXT ISSUE

August 29, 2012

It's June Again!

It has been a great year at St. Benedict's!! We would like to wish you a safe and enjoyable summer!! For those of you who are leaving us and moving on to a new stage in your life, we wish you success and happiness in your future. For those of you who will be returning in September, we look forward to having you return for another exciting year!

Enjoy your summer!

- Mr. Witt, Mrs. Leusink, Ms. Fedyna, and Mr. Sauvé

BENNY'S IN THE LOCAL MEDIA

THE RECORD: Catholic schools' literacy test scores surpass...
THE RECORD: Alternative education program helps at-risk...
THE RECORD: St. Benedict roundabout plan called "a recipe...

Administrative

FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 20 - DONE!

Thursday, June 21

8:21 to 9:37: Period 3 or 4 class
9:42 to 10:58: Period 2 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation
11:03 to 12:10: Lunch
12:20 to 2:20: Period 2 two hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required)
2:30: Bus Pickup

Friday, June 22

8:21 to 9:37: Period 5 class 9:42 to 10:58: Period 3 or 4 class or 76 min. Final Evaluation 11:03 to 12:10: Lunch 12:20 to 2:20: Period 3 or 4 two hour Final Evaluation or Credit Rescue (if required) 2:30: Bus Pickup

Monday, June 25 8:30 to 9:46 Period 5 76 min. Final Evaluation 8:30 to 10:30: Period 5 two hour Final Evaluation 11:03 to 12:10: Lunch 11:00 to 1:00: Period 5 Credit Rescue (if required) 10:40: Bus Pickup

Tuesday, June 26

8:30 to 10:30: Credit Rescue as arranged by teacher and student No buses

NOTE: All students are to be in full uniform during final evaluation and credit rescue classes

ST. BENEDICT EARNS GOLD FOR GOING GREEN

By Mr. A. ARKELL

In our first year of participating in the Ontario Eco School program our school has earned a Gold Level Certification. We are the first secondary school in our board to receive this level of certification.

The Ontario Eco School program takes a comprehensive look at how a school promotes and embraces environmentally friendly practices. These practices include the implementation of an effective recycling program, greening projects around our school grounds, having environmentally themed lessons in different subject areas, clubs and activities to promote student involvement, work in our local community and most importantly creating a eco-friendly culture inside the school.

Our proudest achievement is our new recycling program. During the second semester we recycled over 7000 more pounds of paper and other recyclable materials than we did in first semester. We also recycled over 150 pounds of dead batteries, old cell phones and empty ink cartridges.

Our focus next year will be making our school grounds greener. This will include the possibility of creating vegetable and flower gardens for the students and community to enjoy and maybe creating an outside classroom. Contact the school if you might be interested in helping us out in this area.

SCHOOL COUNCIL SPEAKS OUT ON THE FRANKLIN SAGINAW ROUNDABOUT

By Mr. D. WITT, PRINCIPAL

SHARE YOUR CONCERNS WITH REGIONAL COUNCILLORS.

On Tuesday June 19, a delegation from St. Benedict School Council attended the Region's Planning and Works committee meeting to present their concerns regarding pedestrian safety in light of the Region's plans to proceed with the installation of the Franklin Saginaw roundabout. While the delegation was from St. Benedict, we indicated that this is not just a high school issue.

The Franklin Saginaw intersection is used heavily by pedestrians of all ages accessing businesses on four corners of the intersection as well as community resources such as the Clemens Mill Library and recreational programs at our parks.

The delegation concluded by calling on Regional Council to abandon the plans for a roundabout at the Franklin Saginaw intersection.

In May the Regional Council voted to accelerate the installation plan for roundabouts reducing it to a two year plan beginning in 2014. Cambridge City Council voted to oppose this plan but the decision ultimately rests with the Region. It is important to keep the conversation moving

forward that ALL Regional Councillors understand the concerns you have regarding the Franklin/Saginaw roundabout while there is still time to affect change.

While the Cambridge councillors support our concerns, I believe the councillors from the other parts of our region need to hear our concerns. We ask that you constructively share your concerns by emailing them to Regional Council.

To email the Regional Councillors please reference the list below:

Head of Regional Council

Ken Seiling, Regional Chair, kseiling@regionofwaterloo.ca

City of Cambridge

Doug Craig (Mayor), dcraig@regionofwaterloo.ca Jane Brewer, jbrewer@regionofwaterloo.ca Claudette Millar, cmillar@regionofwaterloo.ca

City of Kitchener

Carl Zehr (Mayor), czehr@regionofwaterloo.ca Tom Galloway, tgalloway@regionofwaterloo.ca Jean Haalboom, jhaalboom@regionofwaterloo.ca Geoff Lorentz, glorentz@regionofwaterloo.ca Jim Wideman, jwideman@regionofwaterloo.ca

City of Waterloo

Brenda Halloran (Mayor), bhalloran@regionofwaterloo.ca Jane Mitchell, jmitchell@regionofwaterloo.ca Sean Strickland, strickland@regionofwaterloo.ca

Township of North Dumfries

Rob Deutschmann (Mayor), rdeutschmann@regionofwaterloo.ca

Township of Wellesley

Ross Kelterborn (Mayor), rkelterborn@regionofwaterloo.ca

Township of Wilmot

Les Armstrong (Mayor), larmstrong@regionofwaterloo.ca

Township of Woolwich

Todd Cowan (Mayor), tcowan@regionofwaterloo.ca

For a link to email ALL councillors at once go to:

http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/regionalgovernment/regionalcouncil.asp - at this link you can choose to email councillors individually or use the general link to email All Members of Council.

Our goal is to ensure that pedestrian safety is a top priority in any redesign of the Franklin Saginaw intersection. Through constructive ongoing communication we hope to achieve this end. Thanks for your support of our students' safety.

▶ **DOWNLOAD:** Roundabout Presentation to Regional Council

September Registration information

Students! Please wear your uniform shirt for pictures.

GRADE 9 & 11 STUDENT REGISTRATION AND PICTURES IN GYM

Wednesday, August 29th, 2012 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. - All Grade 9s 10:30 a.m. - ALL Grade 11s

GRADE 10 & 12 STUDENT REGISTRATION AND PICTURES IN GYM

Thursday, August 30th, 2012 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. - ALL Grade 10s

10:00 a.m. - ALL Grade 12s and Returning Grade 12s

Tuesday, September 4th, 2012

(Uniform not necessary today)

All buses on regular a.m. schedule (depart @ 1:00 p.m.)

8:30 a.m. - all students are to report to their homeroom (period 1 class). Those students with a period 1 spare are to report to the lecture hall.

Dismissal for Grade 10, 11 and 12 students @ 10:00 a.m.

Dismissal for Grade 9 students @ 1:00 p.m. (Gr. 9 orientation with LINK program until 1:00 (lunch provided))

Look for more information in your registration package, which will be mailed out in July.

NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

By Mrs. P. Klassen



CHECK OUT A SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR!

The Specialist High Skills Major is a program that encourages students in grades 11 & 12 to learn more about their career by taking a co-op experience, participating in industry training, and taking related classes in high school.

Second semester has been a busy one for the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program, as we organized many training sessions for St.

s we organized many sining sessions for St.
Benedict students.
Information &

Technology students participated in the Electronics training at the University of Waterloo, where students completed a soldering project with Engineering graduate students. Hospitality and Tourism students spent a day with Chef Terry from

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

The summer holidays offer a perfect opportunity for students to complete their 40 hours of Community Service that are required for high school graduation in Ontario. Opportunities for community service are posted at the school as we are made aware; however students are also encouraged to check out local agencies that rely on volunteer support on their own.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

The following web sites provide a wealth of information regarding the various pathways available to students following high school:

www.ontariocolleges.ca www.electronicinfo.ca www.apprenticeshipsearch.com www.careersintrades.ca www.careercruising.com www.jobbank.gc.ca www.skillsontario.ca

CREATE A LEGACY FOR YOUR BUSINESS!



Langdon Hall in a
Top Chef challenge
to create some
tasty food and new
creations.
Construction
students learned
how to install solar

panels on flat and angled roofs with Conestoga College.

Grade 10 students!



Make sure to get involved for next year by filling out a sign up form online at www.highskills.ca! There are over 10 different majors to

choose from.

For any questions about the SHSM program, please contact Tara Fitzgerald, SHSM Learning Officer: (519) 578-3660 ext. 2549 or tara.fitzgerald@wcdsb.ca.



If you own a small business or you make decisions for a large company, show your support or our community with yearbook advertising. We have everything available to suit every budget, from full-page ads to business card size.

Contact Mr. Curtis, our staff yearbook supervisor, via email or by phone at 519-621-4050 x3033.

The deadline for advertising is **June 29, 2012**

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer school will be available this summer for St. Benedict students through our co-terminous board, the Waterloo Region District School Board. Make-up credit courses will be offered at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge and Cameron Heights Secondary School in Kitchener. A selected number of new credit courses, as well as online blended courses will be offered at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge and Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School in Waterloo. Classes will begin on Wednesday, July 4th and will run until Friday, July 27th. Make-up courses are 3 hours in length, either morning or afternoon, while new credit courses are 6 hours in length, not including a 30 minute nutrition break. Make-up courses involve 54 hours of teacher instruction and are available either in a morning time slot or an afternoon time slot. It is possible for students to take 2 make-up courses if they meet the requirements. New credit courses involve a full day of teacher instruction so students may only take one new credit course during the summer. The Online Blended Model is new this summer and provides a flexible learning environment where students complete the course using a variety of online resources. Students taking on-line blended courses are required to complete the first and last modules on site, however the rest of the course work can be accessed using a computer and the internet at any place and at any time during the duration of summer school. More information regarding summer school course offerings and registration is available in the guidance office. Please note that students interested in taking a new credit course in summer school must register by June 14 while registration for make-up credits will continue until June 26. All summer school registration forms require a parent/guardian signature unless the student is over the age of 18.



Academics

ENRICHING THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

By Mrs. D. WITTMANN

WHY READING IS SO **IMPORTANT**

By Harley Hahn

Source: http://www.harley.com/reading/why-

read.html

We all know that the best way to keep yourself physically fit is to exercise every day. Some days you do more; some days you do less. The important thing is to make physical fitness part of your daily routine.

What many people do not appreciate is that the same principle holds for mental fitness. If you want to be able to think well and to learn well, you must exercise your mind daily.

As with physical fitness, there are any number of activities you can do to keep in shape. However, over the long run, the very best way to exercise your mind is to form the habit of reading. Here is why.

Think of the difference between watching television and reading a book. Watching television is, essentially, a passive experience. You sit, you look, and you listen. Such concentration as you have is driven by outside stimulation. In fact, when you are caught up in a TV show (or even a commercial, for that matter), it is a lot more like being hypnotized than being aware and present with your thoughts.

Reading a book, on the other hand, requires active concentration. As you read, you must put in a great deal of effort to look at the words, figure out what they mean, and build up images, thoughts and opinions within your mind. Moreover, if you are reading and you stop concentrating, even for a second, everything stops. Nothing happens until you start concentrating again.

BEYOND BENNY'S

By Mrs. N. Offak

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY:

Eden Mills Writers' Festival

High school poetry contest has two levels: Grades 9&10 and Grades 11&12. Submission deadline: July 2012

http://edenmillswritersfestival.ca/EMWF/c... Sponsored by: Eden Mills Writers' Festival

Poetry & Essay Writing Contests

Summer contests for poetry and essays in

grade divisions: 7-9 and 10-12.

Essay submission deadline: July 18, 2012 Poetry submission deadline: August 15,

2012

http://www.poeticpower.com/Contests.ht... Sponsored by: Creative Communications

SCIENCE:

Engineering Science Quest

Submissions Year Round Register online http://www.esq.uwaterloo.ca/ Sponsored by the University of Waterloo

THE ARTS:

Public "Art Talks"

Check website for class and talk listings http://www.kwaq.ca/en/exhibitions/ArtTa... Sponsored by the K-W Art Gallery

Art Exhibits and Programs

Check website for program listings http://www.theclayandglass.ca Sponsored by Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery

Arts & Culture Venues & Events in Waterloo Region

Check website for program listings http://www.explorewaterlooregion.com/a... Sponsored by Waterloo Region Tourism

Wilfrid Laurier Music Workshops

Check website for program listings http://www.wlu.ca/page.php?grp_id=160... Sponsored by Wilfrid Laurier University Music Department

For this reason, reading regularly forces you to increase your powers of concentration, a skill whose value would be difficult to overpraise. Reading also requires you to develop your imagination and your critical thinking.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF READING

I am sure, by now, you agree that reading is good for you. However, not all reading is equally productive.

In the same way that a daily 20-minute brisk run will keep you more fit than an occasional 2-minute walk, you can bless yourself with enormous, long-term benefits by reading books that stretch your skills, your imagination, your vocabulary and your powers of understanding.

We all know that some books are harder to read than others. If you try to read something that is too far beyond your ability, you will become frustrated and confused. However if you only read things that are easy —recreational reading, we might call it—you won't be able to increase your mental skills.

Recreational reading is important (and fun), but you need more. My suggestion is to develop a reading program that, day by day, will help you improve your mental capacity.

OTHER:

Waterloo Region Museum Leadership Camp

Youth leadership camp for ages 13-16

Date: August 2012

http://waterlooregionmuseum.com/ Sponsored by Waterloo Region Museum

Youth Committee on Public Affairs

Assist in planning and participating in the annual summer conference in Orillia. Contact information on website under "Youth".

Spring 2012

http://www.couch.ca

Sponsored by Couching Institute on Public Affairs

Laurier Enriched Academic Program

http://www.wlu.ca/leap

Summer camp for gifted/highly able students in grades 1-9. Saturday morning programs and summer camp.

Summer 2012

Registration information on the website.

For more information on these Enrichment Opportunities, please contact Mrs. N. Offak

The secret of training your mind is to read books that are just a bit harder than you can manage comfortably. Over time, as your mind develops, your ability to read and to think will grow.

So I suggest that, every day, you make a point of spending at least 20 minutes reading something that challenges you. Choose a topic or story in which you have an interest, but make sure that it forces you to think. Over time, move deliberately from one book or article to another, making sure to choose new material that is just beyond your current level of comfort.

How do you tell if you are being challenged? Every now and then, as you read, ask yourself these three questions:

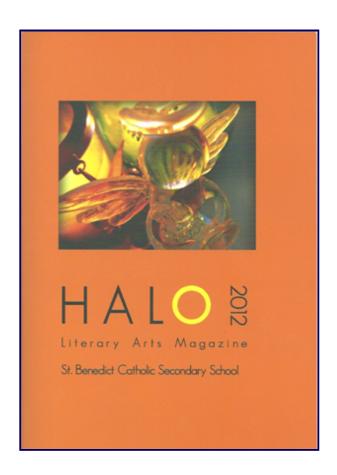
- Am I encountering words I don't understand?
- Am I forced to stop once in a while to think carefully about what I am reading?
- Are there times when I must reread passages in order to understand them more clearly?

NEW HALO RELEASED

By Miss R. Charron

The St. Benedict Literary Arts Magazine—HALO—has arrived!!! Many of our student authors, artists, and photographers now have their work published! A great gift for family members, this full-colour glossy publication costs only \$5.00 and supports student literacy while encouraging creative outlets for teenagers in our school community.

Contact Miss Charron to purchase your own copy of HALO today!



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE SCIENCE TEAM

By Mr. A. ARKELL

Our Science team is composed of over 40 students from Grades 9 through 12. Our team practices throughout the year and competes in competitions that are held at McMaster University, The University of Guelph and at the University of Western Ontario. The events include events related to robotics, engineering, mathematics, physics, biology, chemistry and general problem solving. Here are our results:

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY Gold (Math Event)

- Gabriel Da Sousa, David Li and Nathan Ko
- Each student won a \$500 scholarship for the Science and Engineering Program.

Silver (Biochemisty Event)

- Jason Wozniak, Ajan Packiyanathan and Kennedy Thompson
- Each student won a \$300 scholarship for the Science and Engineering Program.

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO Gold (Pig Dissection Event)

- Rachel Tari, Maria Quiroz, Sarah Fournier, Kennedy Thompson and Colleen Ivits

Silver (Grade 9 Team in Ecology Event)

- Leanne Jenkins, Sarah Richardson, Madison Brook, Courtney Sloan, Nyawuar Malek, Kristine Suarez, Julia Murphy and Jasmine Harding-Baker



Clubs and Athletics

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

By Mrs. N. Offak

On Monday, June 18, thirteen students from St. Benedict had the opportunity to attend the 10th Annual Ontario Special Olympics, held at Resurrection C.S.S. in Kitchener. With the weather reaching a high of 30°C, the students kept their cool and did remarkably well representing our school.

Some of the events that the students participated in included the pool noodle toss, standing long jump, softball throw, and the 60 meter run. Some students chose to run longer races too.



In the weeks approaching this yearly event, students trained in their Physical Education class in order to prepare themselves for their events. They learned the importance of team spirit and perseverance, and had fun doing so. A fun day was certainly had by all of the students and their spirits were not hindered by the warm weather.

Thanks to all the staff and parents who came to support our Saints and cheer them on to their victories!

DOCTOR WHO VIDEO CLUB

By Mr. D. Kukwa

The Doctor Who Video Club meets every Friday after school. It's open to everyone who wants to tickle their geek gene by enjoying episodes from both the classic and current run of the longest running SF/fantasy series in history.

We've had an excellent turn out this year, enjoying pizza, companionship, and goodie giveaways ... all while traveling through time and space in the company of a mad man with a police box.

Who Club starts up again next year, on the first Friday of the school year, and newcomers are welcome. To paraphrase the good Doctor himself, we're serious about what we do ... just not necessarily the way we do it!



Student Activities

THE YEAR IN THE ARTS...

By Mrs. J. Harris

It's been an outstanding year in the Arts at St. Benedict's! Congratulations to the amazing student performing and visual artists who have given so much to our community this year. These students are the "heart" of our school and should be proud of all their arts accomplishments this year. The list of events that have involved arts students is quite amazing! Did you know that our students were involved in the following at St. Benedict's in this past school year?

- School liturgies
- Coffee House
- Haunted House
- Experience the Arts (grade 8's)
- Dance Showcase
- Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat
- Wintersong
- Grade 8 Parent Night
- The Complete Work of Shakespeare – Abridged (Sears Festival)
- Sears Regional Drama Festival (hosted by St. Benedict Drama Dept.)

- Bennie's Got Talent
- Grade 9 Band First Performance
- New York City 2012
- WCDSB Board-wide Coffee House
- Bennie's 50th Coffee House and Anniversary Weekend
- Music Monday
- Music at WCDSB Trustees Meeting
- Family of Schools Liturgy and Art Display
- Our Town
- Pump Up the Arts! Secondary Arts Conference

- Relay for Life
- COPA
- Grad Liturgy
- Flash Mob!
- Music Video
- Grade 12 Art Show
- Arts Banquet
- Mayor's Celebration of the Arts Cambridge
- Closing Assembly
- Many connections with grade school students (music/dance/drama)
- Anime Club
- Jazz Band
- Glee

That's quite a year!

A huge thank you to the staff who have led the students with their passion and enthusiasm for the arts. None of this would happen without their time and leadership. Thank you to the tech crew who are always so professional and reliable and always make the arts students look and sound great! Finally, a thank you to all who have supported one or many of our events this year.

Have a wonderful summer and remember to take time to listen to some great music, enjoy a visit to an art gallery, get inspired by a play, or just dance!

ST. BENEDICT ARTS AWARDS 2012

By Mrs. J. HARRIS

Congratulations to the following students who were received an Arts Award at the recent St. Benedict Arts Banquet:

Outstanding Achievement in Design: Khadijah Zaman

Outstanding Achievement in Crafts: Michaella Worrell-Rogers

Outstanding Achievement in Drawing: Michaela Bobbit
Outstanding Achievement in Sculpture: Amanda Portelli
Outstanding Achievement in Painting: Christina Vogiatzis

Outstanding Stage Manager: Sabrina Sikora

Outstanding Achievement in Tech Crew: Peter Reynolds

Outstanding Performance in "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)":

Julia Wittmann

Outstanding Performance in "Our Town": Kennedy Thompson

Outstanding Performance in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Joel

Cumber

Outstanding Achievement in Guitar: Shane Martin

Outstanding Achievement in Jazz Band: Amanda Harwood Outstanding Performance at Coffee House: Chris Fuellos

Outstanding Achievement in Glee Club: Brook Hill

Outstanding Achievement in Dance Crew: Brittany Sowa

Spirit Award Junior: Andrew Nguyen
Spirit Award Senior: Hannah Martin
Spirit Award Senior: James Rodriguez
Leadership Award Junior: Mikael Melo
Leadership Award Senior: Sarah Simone



Overall Outstanding Achievement in Visual

Arts: Agnieszka Zeglen

Overall Outstanding Achievement in Visual

Arts: Rebecca Sibley

Overall Outstanding Achievement in Drama:

Jessica Benoit

Overall Outstanding Achievement in Music:

Sam Soga

Overall Outstanding Achievement in Dance:

Clare Metcalfe

Overall Outstanding Achievement in Dance:

Daniele Robert

Outstanding Contribution to the Arts: Lisa

Romanick

Other News

COMING IN SEPTEMBER...



Upcoming Events

Thursday, June 21

8:21am Final evaluation days (per. 2 exam)

Friday, June 22

8:21am Final evaluation days (per. 3/4 exam)

Monday, June 25

8:21am Final evaluation days (per. 5 exam)

Tuesday, June 26

8:30am Credit Rescue/Recovery (if required) Summer school registration deadline

Sunday, July 1

Canada Day

Monday, July 9 to Friday, July 13

8:30am SBCSS summer basketball camp

Friday, July 13

Report cards mailed home

Monday, August 6

Civic Holiday

Wednesday, August 29

9:00am Grade 9 registration & photo 10:30am Grade 11 registration & photo

Thursday, August 30

9:00am Grade 10 registration & photo 10:00am Grade 12 registration & photo

Monday, September 3

Labour Day

Tuesday, September 4

First day of school

Check the calendar on the school website for more information.

New information is always being added, and more detailed information about upcoming events can be found there.

On the front page of our website, the calendar displays what is coming up in the next week. If you would like to see the full calendar, you can find it under **Benny's News Calendar of Events**.

Miscellaneous

WE WANT TO KNOW...

Your opinions are important to us! Please <u>email us</u> with your comments and suggestions. If you like our newsletter, tell others; if you don't like it, tell us!

Check out our school website at http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca for news and information updates.

This newsletter is also available on the school website if you <u>click here</u>. You may want to send this link to other parents rather than forward your email—doing so may alter the layout and generate the page incorrectly.



